

Gateway

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Student Court positions vacant for three months

Senate to choose new Court

By Tim Rohwer

UNO's Student Senate may elect a new five-member Student Court at its July 16 meeting, according to Student Senate Speaker Andria Palmesano.

Matt Schultz, chief administrative officer of the Senate, has selected five candidates for the Senate's approval, Palmesano said.

UNO has been without a Student Court since the previous Court resigned in April. The Court resigned, in part, over an alleged conflict of interest in a case involving the *Gateway* and Student Government.

Palmesano said she would like to have the Court elected at the July 16 meeting, although the absence of a Student Court during the summer months is not as critical compared to the regular school term. The Senate might have elected a new Court at its June meeting had it met quorum, Palmesano said.

Student Court's functions include hearing various student grievances, particularly parking tickets; the Court also helps Student Government interpret government bylaws.

"Mike Farquhar (Student President/Regent) and I have asked the Court to help interpret some bylaws when we weren't clear of the meanings," Palmesano said. The Court also oversees student elections.

Any student can apply for a position on the Court, she said. "They should have some knowledge of Student Government, but more importantly, they should understand the basic logic behind the reasons of the laws," she said.

Palmesano said she was surprised when the previous Court resigned.

"The resolution to impeach the Court needed two-thirds majority vote. There was no way the Senate was going to pass that resolution."

The previous Court resigned after hearing a resolution requesting a special committee to look into impeachment proceedings against the Court for malfeasance of office.

The resolution said the Court had a conflict of interest in deciding the case of Timothy Chavez and the *Gateway* vs. Student Government April 2. That case involved the constitutionality of Senate cuts to the *Gateway* budget.

Cancer drug makes history at Med Center

By Elizabeth Tape

Twenty-year-old Christopher Dargan, who suffers from acute myelogenous leukemia, made medical history on June 19 by becoming the first person to receive a new anti-cancer treatment, anti-sense, developed by doctors at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC).

Dargan, who came to UNMC from his home in Newark, N.J., was diagnosed with the disease over two years ago and already had several rounds of unsuccessful therapy before the UNMC treatment.

Mark Arneson, general manager of UNMC's Oligonucleotide Therapeutics Group which developed the treatment, said Dargan's participation in the trial began when a sample of his blood reacted favorably to the new treatment.

Arneson said anti-sense represents a deliberate alteration of part of the p53 gene, a mutation of which is associated with some forms of cancer.

When anti-sense is incorporated into the cancerous cells, it confuses the messenger RNA (ribo-nucleic acid) since there are no longer the expected matches among the nucleotides, he said. This stops the message transmission within the abnormal cells, preventing further formation of the essential DNA (deoxy-nucleic acid), and stops further growth of abnormal cells.

Arneson said his group is encouraged about the evidence that anti-sense has apparently been incorporated into Dargan's cells.

"If you can get the drug into the cells, that's the biggest trick. We can put a lot of things in our bloodstream, but if they don't get into the cells, they have no effect," he said.

The nature of the gene alteration accomplished by the nucleotide group allows the anti-sense to be recognized by the abnormal cells, and is therefore incorporated in them, Arneson said.

The drug's effectiveness on Dargan remains uncertain, since his blood counts frequently vary, according to Arneson.

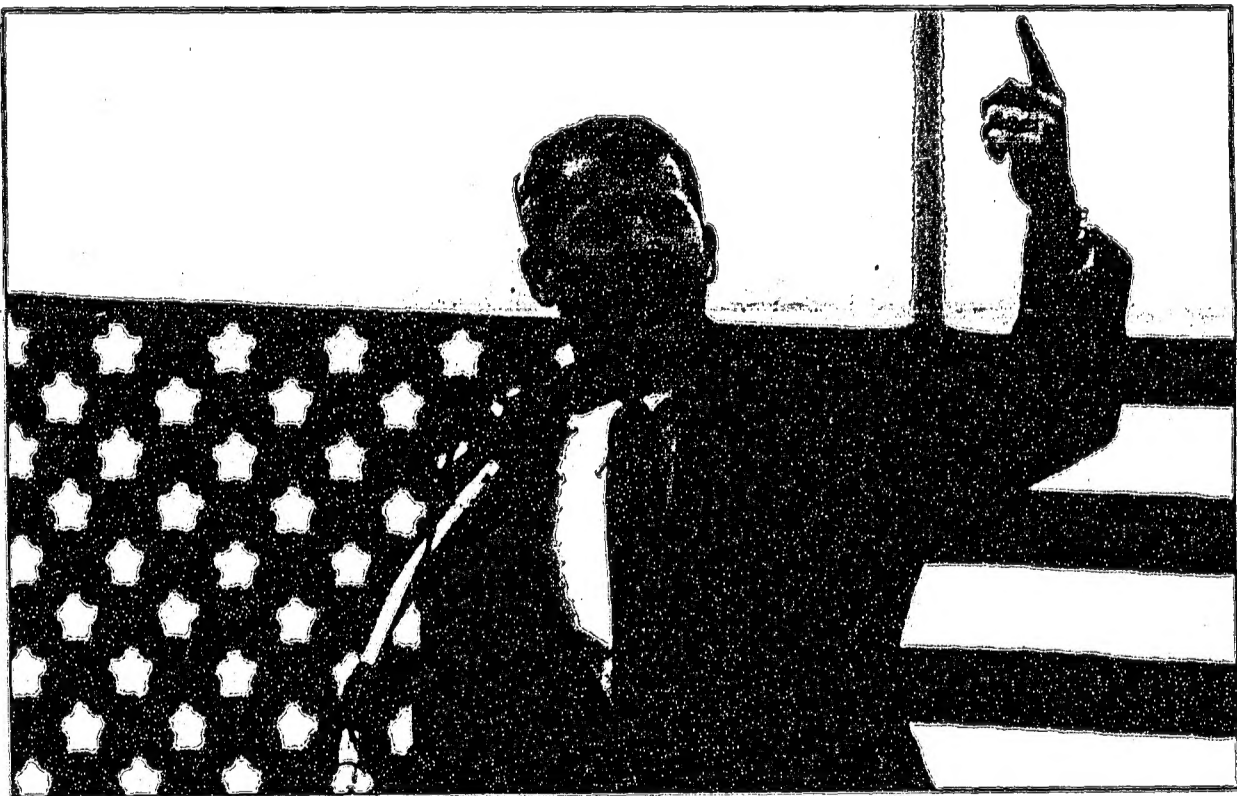
Arneson said his group is encouraged by early indications that anti-sense may require only days or weeks to become effective.

Arneson's group is expecting a sample of Dargan's bone marrow and will examine it for a response to the therapy.

Regardless of the outcome, Dargan's participation in the anti-sense treatment has already generated tremendous amounts of information about this form of therapy, according to Arneson.

Although UNMC is undertaking the current trial through emergency approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, plans already exist to treat other patients.

"When we know these gene targets, we can go after that target and shut it off. We think this will impact medicine dramatically in the near future, and it won't be just cancer; it may be many diseases," Arneson said.



—Eric Francis

Oliver North visits Omaha

Lt. Col. Oliver North spoke to an audience at the Millard South football stadium Friday night. His appearance was sponsored by Glad Tidings Church. A fireworks display followed.

Transplant gives Gupta second chance at life

By Tim Rohwer

It all started happening for Rohit Gupta in early 1991.

Gupta, then director of UNO's International Student Services (ISS) and a seemingly healthy 19-year-old, was getting sicker every day.

"My sickness had been building up for a long time, and it just went on and on. By May, people could see I had lost a lot of weight," Gupta said. "I didn't take it seriously until Thanksgiving." By Thanksgiving, Gupta could hardly walk to his classes.

"I had to stop about every 10 minutes to take deep breaths. One day, I might be able to walk from the Student Center to the College of Business Administration building," he said. "The next day, I might barely make it from the Student Center to the Eppley building. I could see it getting worse."

Gupta went to see his doctor on Dec. 18. It was the first of many hospital visits, including an extended stay of more than a month, before his five-hour surgery May 20.

Gupta received a kidney transplant, and his mother was the donor.

Today, Gupta awaits the fall school term, for which he is enrolled for 15 hours.

"Just yesterday (Monday), my doctor gave me the green light to do anything I want. I am going to make up for a lot of fun I missed over the past six months or so," he said.

Gupta said he will never forget the great sacrifice his mother made to cure his sickness.

"The doctor told us I could have surgery in a couple of months from a live donor. Otherwise, it could be a year waiting on a national list for a dead donor. My mom decided to donate one of her kidneys," Gupta said.

The operation to remove his mother's kidney occurred about two hours before his operation.

"Doctors say the operation is harder on the donor than the recipient. But they say a human being can live without one of the kidneys. It shouldn't affect them in any way. Today, my mother is doing fine."

ISS sponsored a dance last winter to raise

money for Gupta's medical expenses.

"They raised about \$700. I couldn't be there. I wanted to sneak out of the hospital, but I couldn't," Gupta said.

According to Gupta, his father paid \$130,000 for medical expenses.

Gupta said he has a new outlook on life since

the operation.

"I really appreciate life a lot more. I think it's important that people enjoy the beauty God has created," he said. "I realize that God is indeed God, because he has given me a second chance in life. Not only that, but it feels great to get back into my clothes."

Games honor transplant patients

By Tim Rohwer

About 1,000 men and women, including several from Nebraska, are scheduled to compete in Olympic-style games.

Not the Summer Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, but the 1992 United States Transplant Games in Los Angeles, Calif.

The games are held every two years for recipients of lifesaving organ transplants,

according to Karen Engelsman, executive director of the National Kidney Foundation of Nebraska, Inc.

More than 30 teams are slated to participate in the event from July 16-19 on the University of California at Los Angeles campus.

A five-member squad will represent the first-ever Nebraska team in the event,

See Transplant, page 2

Letters

Dear Editor:

Heidi Hess' column about children being arrested in the pro-life movement (*Gateway*, July 1), failed to look at the history of social movements and the role children have played in them.

Though many children do just assimilate the opinions of their parents, there are many who are notorious and skillful at asking painfully inquisitive questions which parents hate, like, "Why do ostriches have wings if they can't fly?"

Children are often the ones who end up leading the adults. They want to know what their parents value and what makes them tick.

One father was asked by his daughter, "Daddy, if they are killing children in there, why don't you just stop it?"

He argued with his daughter, who was only nine at the time. Needless to say, he lost the argument, and both have been arrested numerous times and were arrested here in Omaha. Though this incident is genuine, it is far from being unique. I have seen the same thing occur in the peace movement. A nine-year-old boy read a statement to the guards at Strategic Air Command (at Offutt) Air Force Base and crossed the line.

In the civil rights movements of the '60s, children were arrested and openly disobeyed their parents to do so. How is a parent to punish a child who is willing to be punished by a much stronger authority?

The children in the rescue movement are no different. Those born after 1973 are survivors of America's war on children — the abortion holocaust. They realize war was declared on their generation, and over 25 million prenatal infants have been forced to die before birth at the hands of doctors. This may sound like extremist propaganda to you, but perhaps your thinking is a bit too rigid, for children have saved babies from the hands of abortionists.

Andrew Sullivan

From Transplants, page 1

she said.

"The members of Team Nebraska '92 are living examples of the success and significance of organ transplantation. Their road to recovery and successful rehabilitation has enabled each of them to compete in the 1992 games," Engelsman said.

The Nebraska team is sponsored by various corporations, health organizations and hospitals, including the University of Nebraska Medical Center, she said.

The event has two purposes, Engelsman said.

"It is an athletic event for recipients of these lifesaving transplants to symbolize the celebration of life. At the same time, the Games are designed to increase public awareness of the need for organ donation and the success of transplantation."

Engelsman said there are 25,450 people nationwide waiting for an organ donation. Of this number, about 19,750 are waiting for a kidney donation, the most common organ transplant.

"The demand is greater than the supply," she said.

Engelsman said she believes the reason many people are reluctant to consider organ donation is its connotation with death.

"When we think about transplants, we think about death. That's why people avoid the subject," she said.

Individuals interested in donating an organ upon death can sign an organ donor card from the National Kidney Foundation or the back of their driver's license, Engelsman said.

"You need two witnesses when you sign and make sure your family is aware. Upon death, your family will sign papers asking whether or not to donate your organs. It's important your family knows ahead of time of your decision," she said.

The athletes will compete in nine events, including bicycling, bowling, badminton, golf and tennis.

The Nebraska team members are Michael Schwarz, Rosemary Hewitt and Aaron Schurman, all of Lincoln, Jennifer Anderson of Fremont, and Terry McGrane of Columbus.

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News Clips

Student Government seeks director for student agency

Student Government is looking for a student director for the Disabled Student Agency. Candidates must be interested in the welfare of disabled students at UNO, their rights, facilities, equipment usage and peer programs.

Candidates also must have a 2.0 grade point average.

Interested students should contact Matt Schultz in the Student Center, Room 134.

Avon honors Wells for her business and commitment

Avon Products Inc. awarded UNO professor Paula Wells one of its five Women of Enterprise Awards. Wells received the award in honor of her engineering business and her commitment to the community.

Wells, president of Wells Engineers Inc., has a doctorate in industrial engineering and management systems from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). Her firm deals in transportation engineering and consultation with the government on building bridges and roads.

Wells is the chairwoman of Gov. Ben Nelson's Commission on the Protection of Children and is a member of the Omaha 2000 steering committee on education. She also teaches at UNL.

Faculty Senate discusses access to rape statistics

Members of UNO's Faculty Senate discussed Wednesday the issue of public access to rape statistics involving university students.

Faculty senators discussed the topic after the Senate failed to make quorum, falling three senators short of the minimum of 17 in attendance. Among those not present were Faculty Senate President Carl Camp, who was out of town because of a family illness, and Vice President George Garrison, who was on vacation.

Sen. Mary Curtis began the discussion by asking the other senators present why many universities nationwide are reluctant to release rape statistics, even though federal law allows public access to those statistics.

Sen. Jeremy Lipschultz said some universities have tried to use privacy laws to conceal statistics.

"Historically, it has been difficult getting access. I know there has been no statistical report here at UNO in the last three years," he said.

He said that statistics are important to learning the extent of rape crimes.

"Without data, you don't know what kind of problem it is, whether rapes are increasing or decreasing."

Sen. Andris Skrejja said he believes many universities fear a negative reputation if statistics are released.

Skrejja said he would talk with members of the UNO Faculty Senate Executive Committee concerning future release of rape statistics involving UNO students.

Compiled by Lori Clausen

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Letters must be signed using the first and last name or initials and the last name. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number although this information will not be published. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.



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The *Gateway*:

We have a wiener thief among us.



Markings show racism at UNO

George Garrison is a man who holds a doctorate in philosophy, who chairs the black studies department, and who serves the people of Nebraska as an active community member as a professor and as a Faculty Senate officer.

Garrison is a man, not an ape as the anonymous author of a graffiti (the singular of "graffiti") wrote on a parking lot wall.

I reject the anonymous author's published thesis but will take it both literally and seriously. By doing so, some light can be shed on UNO's particular vulnerability to racism. One may also learn something about the importance of free expression in a democratic society.

If one takes literally the thesis that Garrison is an ape, one may infer directly that the author is foolish. No one would write an insult to an ape. An ape cannot read an insult. To write an insult to an ape is pretty foolish. It is like writing a recipe for creamed carrots to a rabbit. The rabbit simply won't get it.

If the author published the thesis as a discovery, he is equally foolish. Some well-educated people with a great deal of experience, I among them, are certain that Garrison is a man.

If the author wants to persuade us of a discovery that we are wrong, he will have to present considered evidence, will have to face critical evaluation and will have to evaluate his evidence in light of the criticism. These are the standards that govern

Sadists choose summer school

Rest those pencils, books and test sheets with 1,000 little ovals on them back on the desks.

Mini-finals week is over.

Sure, the weather's so hot you need to peel the seat of your shorts off your car seat, and reruns have invaded your favorite sitcoms, but real classes still run in the summer.

And real classes do end in the summer — very quickly.

The syllabi handed out five weeks ago are still warm and smell of Xerox toner. By the time you get acquainted with your professors, you're filling out their class evaluation sheets.

But that's the easy part.

The average fall-spring student is besieged with a barrage of tests and papers at lightning speed in the summer.

The fall-spring student can't carry the casual I'll-get-it-done-next-week attitude because, by the time next week comes, three more assignments are due.

Most summer professors do not believe in summer empathy. They don't sit in their offices, carefully drafting the syllabi, thinking, "I'd assign a few more tests, but I'm afraid that would

be too much for the young scrappers to handle. Besides, it's summer."

The only empathy exhibited by professors is usually followed by a maniacal giggle.

"You know, they really shouldn't offer this class in the summer," is usually the only concession offered.

But you can't blame the professors.

Blame yourself. You're the one who dropped physics your sophomore year because your lab hour conflicted with "Days of Our Lives."

You're the one who figured "What the heck, who needs a

tan anyway?"

OK, OK, maybe it will speed your progress toward a degree, but is it really worth it? Just think what you're putting yourself through. More importantly, think what you're missing.

When's the last time you were able to sleep till noon? Or hit the bars in Council Bluffs after the Omaha bars close? Or lay out and get a tan?

Wake up, summer students. If we were meant to go to summer school, then why does it feel so bad?

Classes Staff Editorial

Alumni newsletter deflates ego

Getting old.

I turned 26 in March. I didn't really think about this event as a monumental occasion until recently. Yes, recently I received the Lance Revisited, my high school alumni association newsletter, in the mail — that made me feel old.

I never really thought of myself as old. I have friends as young as 21. I even know more than 10 adults who were too young to really remember Richard Nixon's resignation from office. Of course, then the Lance Revisited graced my mailbox; and suddenly I feel old. The greatest accomplishment of my life was graduating with my bachelor's degree in May. I felt great, on top of the world, in charge, nothing could stop me. I succeeded at something I worked five hard years for; I was on cloud nine. Then the Lance Revisited visited my mailbox.

I would have been fine if I wouldn't have read it. In the eight years since I graduated from Westside High School, I have read the Lance Revisited maybe three times. I never thought the Lance (the school newspaper) was worth the paper it was printed on, so revisiting it never really interested me. But then I saw the front cover of it, full of photos of the guy who was principal when I was in school. He is retiring from his position as superintendent of the district. One of the things that made me feel old was that Dr. Tangdall looked old; he didn't look old when I was in high school.

Trapped into reading the rest of the newsletter, I stumbled across some more information that made me feel old: "Craig Cleaver, class of 1987, signed on with Lucas Film's Industrial Light & Magic, located near San Francisco, in the fall of 1990. In the summer of 1991 he moved to Paramount Pictures in the post-production department of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" as a visual effect assistant." This is a guy who was a freshman when I was a senior, and look where he is compared to where I am.

Then, getting into people I actually vaguely remembered from high school that make me feel old was this one: "Mark Schlegel, class of 1983, is currently a college instructor in

astronomy at UNO. He received his B.S. in physics from Boulder in May of 1990 with an M.S. in astrophysics." So, a person who graduated just one year ahead of me with a whole group of my high school buddies is an instructor at UNO.

Not that we were ever friends or anything, but it just seems to be poetic justice in some way that someone who is just one year older than me is teaching at the same institution I just graduated from. This could have a tendency to deflate your bubble of happiness with your crisp new diploma.

Oh, I know. What the Lance Revisited doesn't have in it are some of these: "John Jones, class of 1984, is currently

working 90 hours a week at a gas station to pay for his run-down mobile home and support his wife and seven children."

Or: "Jane Brown, class of 1983, is currently married to

her third husband and has four children. She plans to attend vocational school as soon as all of her children start school so she can get off welfare."

I also know that success is not to be measured by comparing your accomplishments to those of other people. I did feel like my measly little B.S. in journalism was nothing compared to working for Lucas Films or being an instructor at UNO. But then I remembered why I was so proud of my B.S. in journalism back in May. I worked very hard for five long years to get that degree, and it means a lot to me.

I surely wouldn't make it in the Top 10 success stories at my 10-year class reunion, and I don't really care. I have done a hell of a lot better than some of my buddies I hung around with.

I feel great about myself.

I still feel old; I just feel like an old success instead of a young one.

This is the last time I'll read the Lance Revisited. It is dangerous. Pretty soon there is going to be a notice looking for volunteers to help with my class reunion. AAARRRRGGGGGGG!

Heidi Jeanne Hess Columnist

Boyd Littrell Guest Columnist

persuasion among scholars, even in the corporate university. The graffiti is an unsupported thesis presented to an academic audience. That is pretty foolish.

Now I face a problem. If I believe the author of the graffiti to be foolish, I should not write a response. If it is foolish to write recipes for rabbits, it is equally foolish to argue with fools. But if the author was serious, I must believe he did not mean what he said. I assume the author was serious (it would be foolish not to) and that he meant to insult a man named George Garrison by calling him an ape. Because Garrison is a man who is also an African American, referring to him as an ape has a specific and ugly racist history. Although I, a white man, would be insulted to be called an ape, the insult would weigh less heavily because it carries fewer connotations for me.

If the author of the graffiti intended to direct a racial slur at the man many of us respect (even when we disagree with him) named George Garrison, the graffiti has a very serious meaning indeed. Then the matter of racism at UNO must be addressed.

I believe UNO is particularly vulnerable to racial tensions. I experience them in third person, plural pronouns in the sociology course I teach. "Why don't those people ...?" "I can understand their view, but ..." and "They don't ..."

I read on the back of a restroom door in Arts and Sciences Hall "Death to ragheads" and, added later, "to faggots." This lumping into "thems" makes racism easier. We can support any foolish ideas with anonymous and fictional "thems" and "theys."

UNO's particular vulnerability is related to social class — the relative distribution of wealth. Race and class are easily tangled. But class intensifies problems faced both by racial and ethnic minorities and by poorer whites.

The competition for jobs, income and scholarships is more desperate for both whites and blacks (and other "status groups") whose incomes are lower. This fact lies at the heart of much purposeful trouble in American history.

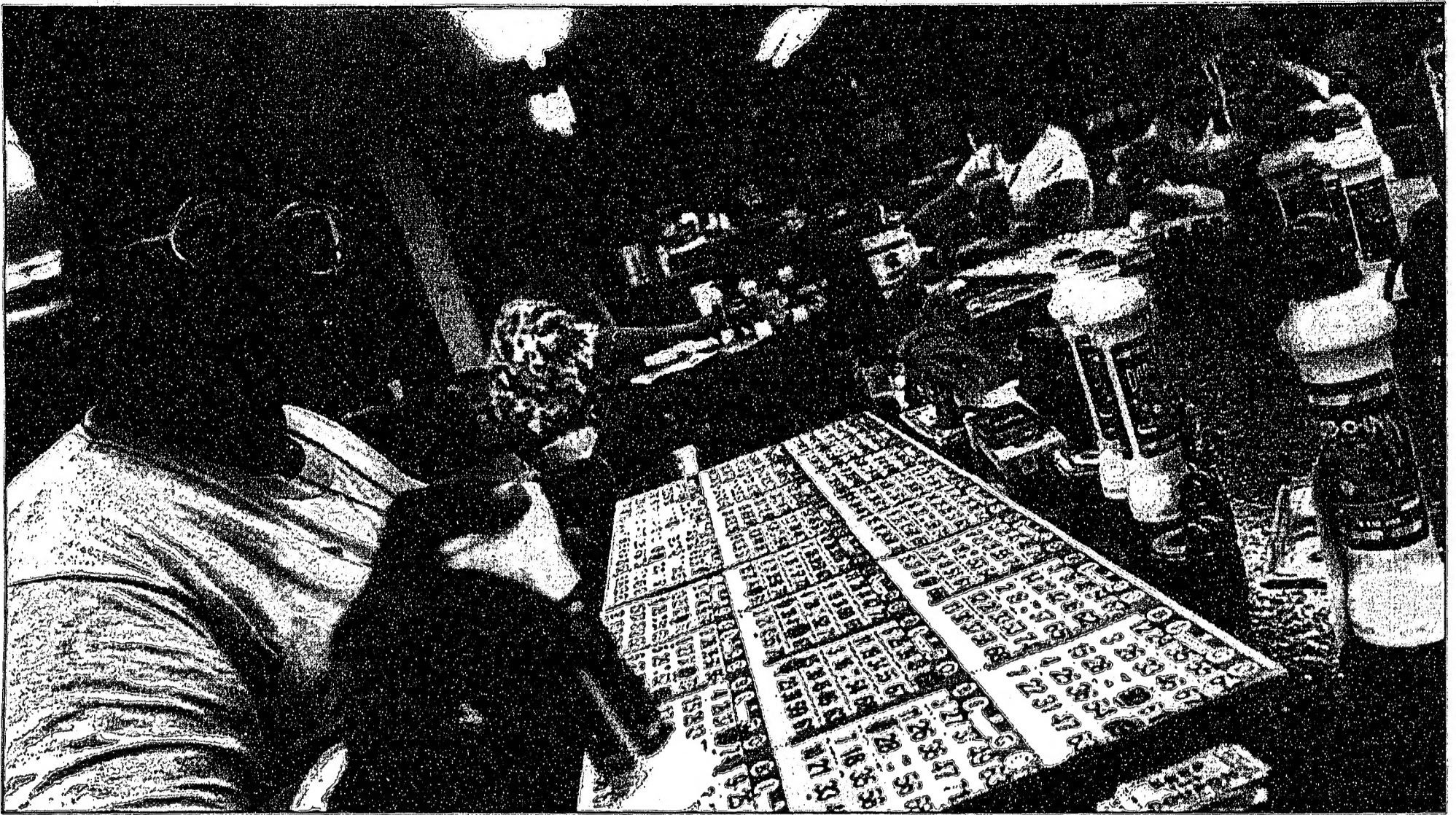
UNO is particularly vulnerable to racism because most of us here come from the lower half of the economic structure. UNO's vulnerability is formally built into its mission to serve the "urban" or the "metropolitan" area. An "urban mission" is the way polite (read wealthier) people talk about working people, poorer people, and racial and ethnic minorities. If it is not, to what exactly does an urban mission refer? Acknowledging other rivalries and jealousies, this "urban mission" and what it hides, as well as what it expresses, lies at the heart of quarrels among the campuses.

Still, the stark and false thesis crudely published in the parking lot provides an occasion to trace the social roots of UNO's particular (not unique) vulnerability to racism.

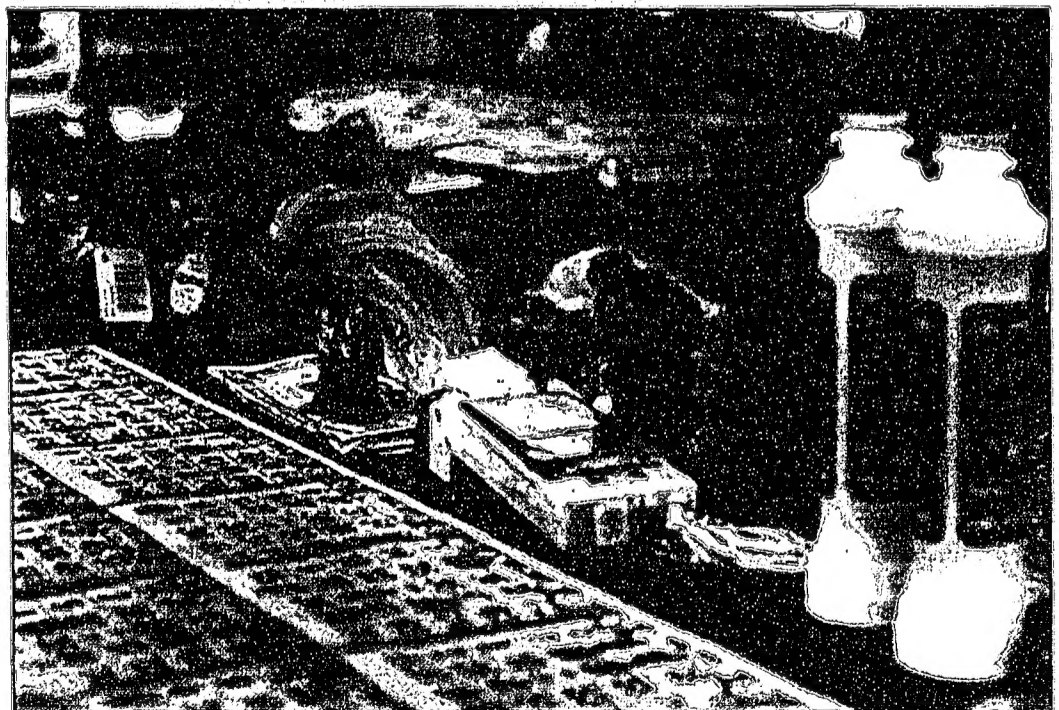
Garrison is a man whose presence here invites careful and serious discussion of our vulnerability to racism. The author of the graffiti did not accept this invitation. The author's refusal to discuss the matter spells the difference between free expression and foolishness and racism.

Boyd Littrell is a professor of sociology at UNO.

B-12, I-22, N-32



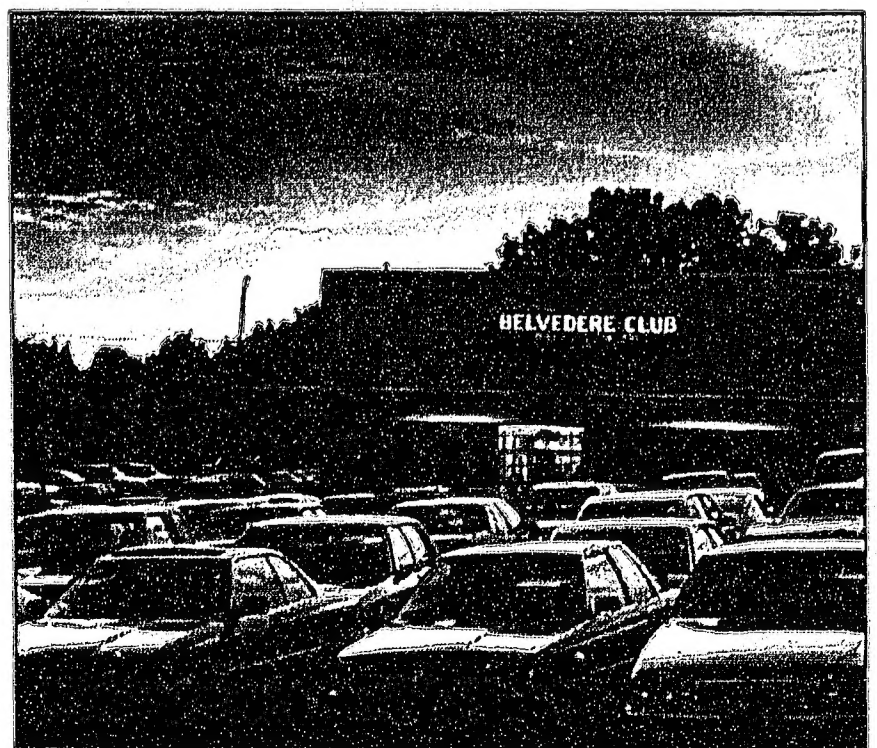
Have dauber, will bingo ... A bingo enthusiast makes her mark on her array of cards early Tuesday evening at the Belvedere Bingo Hall, 7803 Military Ave.



Above: Good-luck charms grace the tables of many bingo players.

Left: Bingo wasteland. Sacks of trash are left behind before the jackpot game.

Right: Hundreds of bingo players fill the Belvedere Bingo Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays.



G-56, O-69 ... BINGO!

She knows playing bingo is a gamble, but Selene Leonard tries to hedge her bets by placing a good-luck doll and a Born-to-bingo key chain on the table beside her 30 bingo cards, three bingo daubers and glue stick.

Leonard is one of the hundreds of Omahans that gather twice a week to play bingo at the Belvedere Bingo Hall, 7803 Military Ave.

Kay Jensen has seen superstition pay off, when three members of her family won big-time jackpots — all on a Friday the 13th. That's one of the stories Jensen fondly recalls from her bingo days in Texas, where the crowd was once entertained by a male stripper.

In Omaha, her bingo stories are not so colorful.

"When I first came to town, I bingoed and had to split \$75 with 37 other people," Jensen says.

"The next time I bingoed I was afraid to holler because I thought I'd have to owe them money."

Tonight she's playing a pile of tear sheets with only six cards.

"The number of my cards all depends on how much money I've got," she says.

She gently taps the base of her dauber, patiently awaiting the next number.

"G-59," says the bingo caller.

An arm is raised in the sea of heads, and a roomful of grumbles follows.

"We have a bingo," the announcer says.

"Same old crap," mutters Jensen as she dejectedly discards her sheets in the trash bag.

Carol Sneathen's voice permeates the even hum of air conditioners at Belvedere.

Sneathen calls the bingo numbers two nights a week and hears plenty of complaints from frustrated bingo players.

"You can read their mouths in the audience," Sneathen says. "They get upset. I think they feel luckier with certain callers."

Sneathen has grown accustomed to seeing many of the same faces, as she calls bingo numbers at different halls every night of the week.

"You get to know a lot of (people)," Sneathen says. "And they come to every place you work. It's like a home away from home for them."

Across the room Leonard is one of those regulars, and she listens to the numbers and blots them on her sheets, as she does every night.

"Playing just relaxes me," Leonard says. "My husband works nights, and I work days. I like to spend his money."

Bingo wasn't always relaxing to Leonard, she says, as she once threw all of her bingo paraphernalia out of her

car window heading home from an unsuccessful day.

"I was so mad," she says. "When you go three to six months without bingoing, it gets frustrating."

Two days later, she bought new daubers and won the \$1,000 jackpot.

As the fifth game nears its end, Jensen runs out of stories and concentrates on her cards. She quickly looks up at the board and yells, "Bingo!"

"You brought us luck," she shrieks to her companion.

A few seconds later, her face falls as she hears a number of other bingo winners announced over the speakers. A Belvedere worker returns, placing \$12.50 next to her on the table.

"That'll take me up to the VFW tomorrow night," Jensen shrugs as she holds up the money.

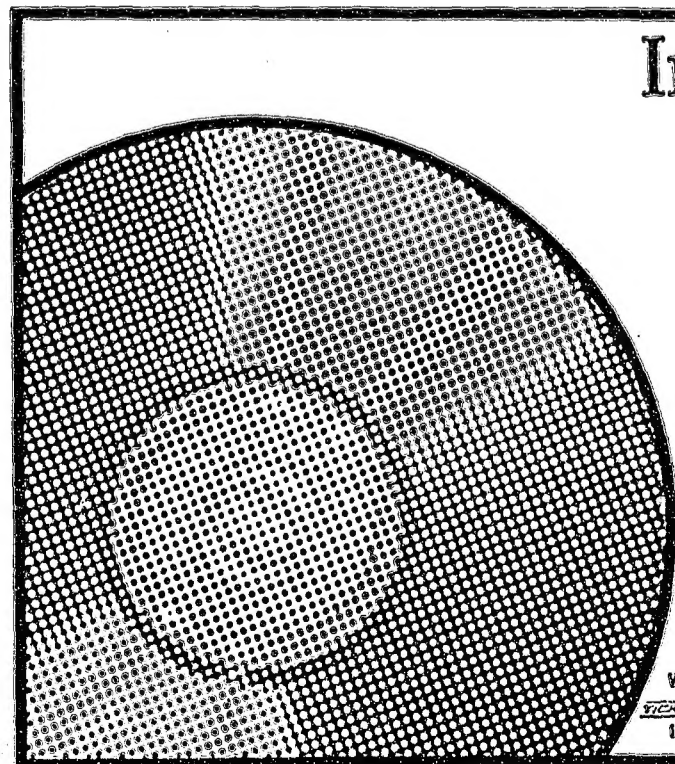
"It will buy me a couple of drinks and some pickle cards."



Armed with bingo daubers and cards on tear sheets, the Belvedere bingo players vie for the \$1,000 jackpot.

**STORY BY:
ELIZABETH MERRILL**

**PHOTOS BY:
ERIC FRANCIS**



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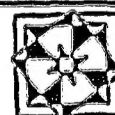
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Rollins Band thrashes fans

Tool is one of the latest alternative thrash bands to emerge from the Los Angeles scene.

Composed of vocalist Maynard James Keenan, bassist Paul D'amour, drummer Danny Carey, and guitarist Adam Jones, the band opened for the Rollins Band Friday at the Ranch Bowl.

Touring in support of their debut EP "Opiate," Tool had the crowd moshing early as they pounded out the songs "Sweat" and "Jerk-Off" from their debut effort.

By the end of the set, the band had the packed room in a frenzy while everyone tried to cool off and find a little more energy for the arrival of the Rollins Band.

Taking the stage, Rollins and his band wasted no time. They pounded out the first single "Low Self Opinion" from their latest CD "The End of Silence." Followed by the current single

live!

review by eric johnson

"Tearing," the Rollins Band had the stage divers literally kicking the ceiling down.

The band, composed of drummer Sim Cain, guitarist Chris Haskett, bassist Andrew Weiss and sound man Theo Van Rock, gave an airtight performance as they wound through track after track from their most recent effort.

Rollins took his usual surfing-like stance and bent halfway over, grooving from side to side. Like the CD, the show was like a soul-cleansing ritual as Rollins' face contracted with emotion. The songs "Almost Real" and "Just Like You" were just as forceful, if not more, than the studio versions.

Spoken word and musical improvising elaborated many of the songs. "Obscene" was the most powerful song of the evening. Halfway through the performance, Rollins brought the tempo down and stopped the stage diving.

He told the crowd about a 15-year-old girl who was raped during the show the night before in Lawrence, Kan.

"I bet some of you would like to kill that guy," he said. "Maybe someone sees seven or eight of you in the parking lot with baseball bats beating the guy's brains out, and they say that is obscene. There might be some rapists out there who wish they had done the raping."

Rollins and the band sweated their way through the rest of the set and left everyone exhausted.



—Chris Cuffaro

The Rollins Band (from left): Henry Rollins, Sim Cain, Theo Van Rock, Chris Haskett and Andrew Weiss.

art • beat

music, film, the arts and whatever else fits

98's Rockett boosts a.m. listeners

As I staggered into the offices of KQKQ Sweet 98 FM radio station at 7 a.m., I was struggling to remain conscious.

It seemed unimaginable that Doc Rockett and his colleagues Liz Adams and Tom Zenner had been being witty and clever for over two hours. Yet, there they were, engaging in the most amusing and sharp repartee.

Rockett, a paragon of early morning radio personality styles, stood on a hydraulically-raised platform working his console, handling telephone calls, organizing the "bits" the station prepares each morning, jesting with his col-

leagues, and taking the time to greet me. It was quite a show.

At the close of this energetic four-hour interval on the air, Rockett and Adams took time to speak with me about some aspects of their work.

Although he grew up in Memphis, Tenn., Rockett said he considers himself "a California native," having lived there for many years while acting and teaching performing arts. He moved to Omaha several years ago for a position at another Omaha radio station and then came to KQKQ early this year.



Doc Rockett from Sweet 98 FM.

Rockett said he misses California.

"In L.A., you always have the feeling that something could happen to you any minute, and that you certainly don't have in Omaha, Nebr., and I miss that. But you don't miss the earthquakes or the drive-by shootings or the traffic," he said. "I built my schedule and career around the freeway system. I would never be in a situation where I would have to go in with the main flow of traffic."

Adams agrees with Rockett.

"Every time I go home to L.A., the freeways

have three more lanes, but it doesn't make a difference."

Now settled in Omaha, Rockett said he enjoys this area and particularly enjoys his work. He and his co-writers prepare the next day's program from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. each preceding evening. They scan newspapers,

funny to the people listening."

Adams said much of that decision-making is ultimately in Rockett's hands.

"He's a kind of barometer of humor for the show," she said.

During the afternoon preparatory meetings, Rockett said he intentionally excludes his on-air colleagues.

"I don't want them to know what's coming, because if I make them laugh, if I put them in a funny situation and they respond favorably, chances are the listeners will as well."

In addition to his demanding role anchoring KQKQ's morning broadcast, Rockett runs a local production company which has won awards for its commercial work.

Earlier this month, Rockett received nationwide recognition for his on-air work when Billboard Magazine readers nominated him as one of the top five radio air personalities of the year for Top 40 stations in small markets.

The nomination process begins with "a blue-ribbon panel of radio program directors and radio representatives who work in the formats. There's a different panel for each format, so the nominators have a national perspective and know each format well," said Carrie Borzillo of Billboard Magazine.

Borzillo said ballots were in the July 4 issue of Billboard Magazine for readers to make the final selections. The winners will be named at the September National Association of Broadcasters convention in New Orleans, La.

Rockett's competitors broadcast in Louisville, Ky., Flint, Mich., Oklahoma City, Okla. and Tucson, Ariz., Borzillo said.

In reaction to this commendation, Rockett responded with his engaging charm.

"It's the first time that anything like that has happened. I'm very excited. There are a lot of disc jockeys out there and a lot of morning shows to be recognized. It's such a cliché when you hear on awards show, 'Just to be nominated is an honor ...' but it's kind of fun. It really is."

Summer movies light up screen

'Housesitter' by elizabeth tape

The movie tells the tale of waitress and wanderer Gwen (Goldie Hawn) and architect Davis (Steve Martin). Gwen and Davis meet, share a spontaneous evening together, and then part. That is, until Gwen decides to move into Davis' dream home, built for the woman of his dreams, Becky (Dana Delaney), who has spurned him.

With her winning charm, Gwen mesmerizes Davis' family and friends in the small community where he has built this house. She convinces everyone she has married Davis. Seeing a route to arouse Becky's ardor, Davis plays along, even to the point of a belated wedding reception.

Julie Harris and Donald Moffat turn in wonderful performances as Davis' puzzled parents, who struggle to make sense of the shenanigans they witness.

Although "Housesitter" suffers from a few rocky, awkward moments, its entertaining basis, and warm performances by Martin, Hawn and Delaney, make for an enjoyable film. Good, but not worth the \$5.

'Pinocchio'

Disney has re-released its classic animated feature "Pinocchio" after some reconstruction work. The results of these dogged labors are apparent with the beautiful print that has resulted. This much-loved tale about wishes coming true and the importance of integrity still works well today, with such lovable creatures as Jiminy Cricket and Gepetto, Figaro and the fish, as well as Pinocchio.

With harrowing scenes such as those on Pleasure Island and the whale sequences, the film may alarm little ones, but it surely makes for dramatic cinema. Don't Miss!

American sees growth of Romanian businesses

The author recently travelled in Romania as part of a research team from UNO's executive master's of business administration (MBA) program. This is part two in a series of three articles about his experiences and includes opinions of the author.

By Michael Kohler

As Romania waits for the United States to respond to its cry of nearly 50 years — "The Americans are coming!" — its business sector is not pinning all its economic hopes on the sudden flow of American foreign aid.

Instead, Romanian business leaders are busy seeking out and cutting deals every day with a wide range of investors from Western nations. Romanian businesses are cutting deals with both small investors and large corporations, most in joint ventures.

The smaller investments can be as little as \$25,000, which goes a lot farther in Romania than it does in America. Typical of the larger investments is the partnership among the Romanian government and German and French telecommunications companies to develop a new telephone system in Bucharest.

There is a mixed message about the current level of investment. On one hand, it is encouraging to see an emerging nation attracting the attention of foreign investors. Such investment is an appropriate reward to courageous people who risk their lives for the sake of democracy.

On the other hand, while the Romanians are grateful for the investment they have realized to date, the level is modest by several measurements. For one thing, the amount of capital flowing from countries like Germany, France, America and others is really a speck in comparison to their overall foreign investment.

Furthermore, of the emerging Eastern bloc nations, Romania has commanded considerably less investment confidence than such neighbors as Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Finally, the amount of activity in Romania is far too little to provide the jump start that is critically required to accelerate the country's conversion to a free-market economy.

Politics have effect on economy

Some analysts are concerned about the rate of movement toward the free market in Romania. Considering the turmoil in the former Yugoslavia and the seemingly amicable separation coming about in Czechoslovakia, political stability is obviously a concern in eastern Europe.

Holdover politicians from the Ceausescu regime have suc-

cessfully delayed the latest elections which doesn't help Romania's cause in trying to project an image of stability.

Shaking the confidence of outsiders even further is the slowness of Romanian government officials to pursue privatization, especially in key areas. In areas where Romania would stand to benefit the most from foreign involvement in not only cash but expertise as well, Romania's government is steadfastly clinging to control.

The most notable industries which languish are the railway system and telecommunications. In the latter, the government is establishing joint ventures (such as the aforementioned deal with Germany and France). But those instances seem self-serving for the central government, which is primarily interested in getting its offices wired for the communication and does not seem to even have secondary interest in pushing for widespread consumer service.

Railways have little interest in privatization

The railway officials my research team met with during our visit represented what is wrong with the prevailing attitude of Romanian government officials. Despite a number of privatization success stories in Romania of which they were aware, rail officials expressed no real interest or advantage in privatizing any aspect of rail service, freight or passenger.

In fact, they seemed disappointed about what they see as their decline since the revolution. The railway system of operation has not changed, and, yet, as they expressed it (roughly paraphrasing), "Under the old regime, we were getting more money from the government."

The government also maintains control of most of the major industrial activities, some of which are more productive than others. The more productive state-owned operations are located in the western part of the country, particularly in Timis County, the hub of which is Timisoara, where the revolution began.

For example, at Comtim, a large, vertically-integrated meat processing plant, management has increased its productivity partially through a reduction in the workforce from more than 5,000 employees to 3,300.

A similar story is told at Elba, a light fixtures manufacturing operation in Timisoara. They proudly point to the historical tidbit that Timisoara was the first European city whose streets were electrically illuminated. There is more than just a little bit of symbolism in that fact.

Successes not widespread

So far, the success stories, at least at the major industrial level, are not widespread throughout Romania. Whether that situation will change any time soon is difficult to tell.

Elections are now set for Sept. 26, and there is common agreement that Romania's parliament is likely to undergo significant changes in its membership.

However, the newcomers to the political scene may not be able to transfer similar significant change to the industrial sector.

President Ion Iliescu is projected as likely to remain in office and will continue to wield a lot of political clout. With his prime minister and cabinet appointees having a strong influence in shaping policy, rapid turnaround may not be realized. It may take a few election cycles.

Situation has positive sides

These observations may convey a bleak impression of how promising the Romanian business climate may be.

Actually, Romanians have good reasons for optimism about an economic turnaround in their country. Some theorize that slowness of movement on the political front will be countered, and strongly, by a parallel system in which Romanian entrepreneurs work their way around bureaucracy and take more of the "ready, fire, aim" approach that has launched a lot of successful Western businesses.

Timisoara is the front-runner in the Romanian "free-market derby," the race to privatize business and begin earning profits.

The business sector in Timisoara is wisely positioning itself to take advantage of its proximity to the West. Located in the heart of a fertile agricultural area, Timisoara is home to some of Romania's most thriving state-owned and private businesses.

So enlightened is the business sector that we were surprised on some occasions to learn that we had been talking with managers from state-owned companies. Their attitudes were so fresh and their discussion so candid that they did not fit the stereotype of central-government bureaucrats.

With their tremendous tourism potential, the gorgeous mountain city of Brasov and the Black Sea port city of Constanta, are also promising trade prospects.

Constanta, because of its vital role as a shipping center, looms as a particularly strong trade center. The port has a dire need for additional container service and updating of loading and unloading facilities, but overall the area is in pretty good shape.

While Bucharest remains a stronghold of bureaucracy (i.e. red tape), the dominant presence of government there presents opportunities for foreign business people to cut deals with Romanian government.

However, such deals are more likely for large corporations and perhaps not for the average businesses or investors.

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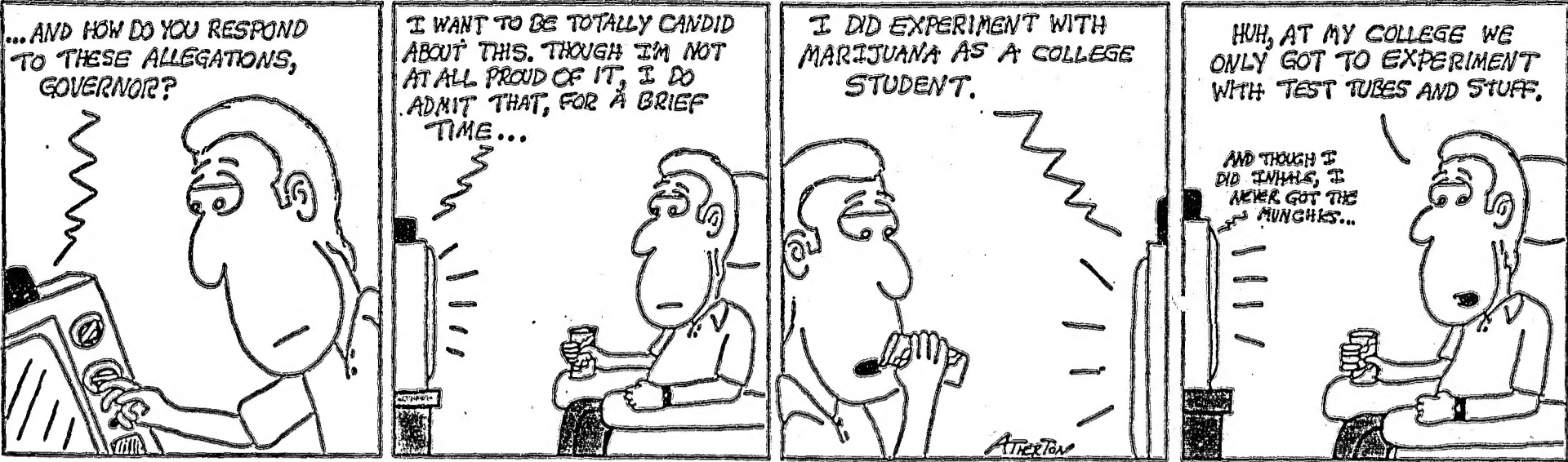
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